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SENATE MEMORIAL 75

49TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - FIRST SESSION, 2009

INTRODUCED BY

Pete Campos

A MEMORIAL

REQUESTING THAT THE HIGHER EDUCATION DEPARTMENT WORK WITH THE PUBLIC EDUCATION DEPARTMENT TO REVIEW THE ADEQUACY AND APPROPRIATENESS OF BRANCH AND COMMUNITY COLLEGE STATUTES.

WHEREAS, New Mexico statutes relating to the organization and operation of two-year post-secondary institutions and programs have evolved in a haphazard manner over many years; and

WHEREAS, these statutes include those for branch community colleges in Chapter 21, Article 14 NMSA 1978, first codified by the New Mexico legislature in 1957, under which four branch community college campuses of New Mexico state university, four campuses of the university of New Mexico and two campuses of eastern New Mexico university currently operate; and

WHEREAS, these statutes include the Community College Act,

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1 enacted by the New Mexico legislature in 1963, under which six
2 locally governed community colleges currently operate; and

3 WHEREAS, these statutes include the Technical and
4 Vocational Institute Act, enacted in 1965, under which the
5 central New Mexico community college currently operates; and

6 WHEREAS, these statutes include the Off-Campus Instruction
7 Act, enacted in 1982, under which no institutions currently
8 operate; and

9 WHEREAS, these statutes also include the College District
10 Tax Act, the Learning Center Act and the Workforce Training
11 Act, among others; and

12 WHEREAS, some provisions in these statutes may be
13 obsolete, duplicative or no longer relevant to current
14 practice; and

15 WHEREAS, there is a need to review and update these
16 statutes to assure the legislature that the legal framework
17 relating to two-year post-secondary institutions is adequate to
18 meet current and future requirements;

19 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE STATE
20 OF NEW MEXICO that the higher education department, in
21 cooperation with the state's two-year post-secondary
22 institutions and the public education department, where
23 appropriate, be requested to conduct a thorough review of all
24 relevant New Mexico statutes for adequacy and appropriateness
25 and to develop recommendations for modification to be presented

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to the second session of the forty-ninth legislature.

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